

St Mary's School, Mosgiel Newsletter



Mission Statement—**St Mary's is a Catholic School dedicated** to the provision of the highest quality primary education with a special emphasis of Catholic values and attitudes.

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Term 4 Week 7

6th December 2011

62 Church Street, Mosgiel, Dunedin 9024

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Friends of St Mary's School,

The second last week of the term and what a busy time it is.

I attended, along with a number of parents and teachers, pupils and our school choir, Father Vaughan Hook's ordination on Friday night, and what a special occasion it was. Father Vaughan has noted on several occasions how proud he had been of his education at both St Mary's and as it was then, The Taieri High School. Father Vaughan was Head Boy at St Mary's when he was in Year Eight, and feels the leadership opportunities that he was given at such a relatively young age helped to enable him to achieve what he has in later life.

We have begun our performances of our end of year concert, with the matinee going off very smoothly and I am sure that the evening performances will also be a tribute to the hard work and effort of the staff.

In his book 'Outliers' the author Malcolm Gladwell noted that a study carried out in American schools showed that children who continued with their education during their summer break were the children who were most likely to achieve well at school, up to 25% more likely in fact.

So just continuing on with my message from last week, please encourage your children to continue to read during the holidays. Buying books as Christmas presents is a good idea, but remember all children right up to intermediate age like to be read to, especially a story that is topical. I am reading the Hobbit to my daughter Emily at the moment. She chose this because she liked watching the Lord of the Rings films and wanted to know what happened in the Hobbit before she saw the film—this comes our next year.

As with most longer books it takes a while to get into it but now that we have she reminds me every night that it's story time, and lets face it reading a good book is far more beneficial than watching some of the programmes on T.V.

**Have a great week,
Mike Brosnahan.**

Touch played on Monday



Our Vision : Confident, reflective, risk-taking, lifelong learners in a Catholic School.

St Marys PTA Christmas Trail

The PTA have arranged to do a Christmas Trail this year, on Sunday 18th December 7.30-9.30pm.

Come and join in for a drive around Mosgiel to see the Christmas decorations and lights on houses and gardens.

Tickets only cost \$5pp, available at the school office, AMI Mosgiel, and Rosies Gift Shop.

Please invite family and friends to join us and enjoy this magical time of the year.



Message of thanks

Thank you for the wonderful congratulation messages on my recent graduation. I graduated in Sydney with a Master of Educational Leadership which I have been studying for the past 3 years. I have also completed two e-learning papers studying online and mobile learning. Alongside my study I have travelled round New Zealand visiting teachers, schools and classes. I have had the opportunity to experience amazing learning, and set up some awesome collaboration projects. I can't wait to put it into practice in 2012.

Anne Kenneally

Altar Servers Sunday 11th December
Caitlin Anderton, Anahera Reynolds, & Michaela Sutherland.

Looking Ahead Term 4

December

7/8th School Production 7pm

12th Room 7—Day Out

13th First Reconciliation 7pm
PTA BBQ lunch (provided)

14th Kavanagh Production Rms 5-7
Shared Lunch Day in all classrooms—see notice on next page.

BOT Meeting 7.30pm

15th Final Mass 6pm, farewell to our Yr 8 pupils—all pupils to be in uniform.

16th Clean up morning, children to be pickup by lunch time please.

First Day Back for Term 1 2012 is Tuesday 31st January, 9am start.

Uniform Reminder

Please check that your child is wearing the correct uniform, while the end of the year is getting closer we also are involved in more public outings so the uniform and standard of dress of our pupils comes under more scrutiny.

Areas of concern that I have noted are: Children not wearing the correct school shoes (black leather).

Girls with long hair that is either one not tied back or is tied with incorrect ties (navy blue, black or maroon ties (no fancy clips).

Girls with either more than one small stud type earring per ear, or larger or colourful earrings.

The concept behind a uniform is to ensure that the appearance of all of our pupils is neat, tidy and the same (uniform), this discourages competition and dress appearance becoming outrageous. I thank you for your support in this matter. Mike Brosnahan

Congratulations

Congratulations to Michaela Sutherland who has been selected in the Dunedin Metro Girls under 15 cricket team. Well done Michaela.

PTA News ...

Thank you to all the parents and those in the school community who supported the PTA throughout the year.

We have accomplished a lot this year especially with the success of the recent school Fair. This is only possible through your support.

Please remember to dust off your entertainment books and use them over the holidays!

Reminder:

Next **Tuesday** we are providing a **BBQ lunch** for all the children as a thank you for all your support this year from the PTA.

Have a safe and Merry Christmas.

A thought for the week...

Without faith, nothing is possible.
With it, nothing is impossible.

-Mary McLeod Bethune



Shared Lunch Wednesday 14th December

To celebrate the end of our learning journey for 2011, **all classes** will be having a shared lunch in their classroom on **Wednesday 14th December** from 12.30pm.
- You are all welcome to come and join us!

Please could we have something suitable for lunch, (as well as a few treats) e.g. savoury items like scones, pizza bread, vege slices/dip, fruit kebabs, sandwiches etc. rather than too many packets of lollies, biscuits and chips. Sorry we don't have the facilities to heat food. If this could be delivered on a disposable plate, as it saves a lot of washing up and finding owners for lost plates! Thank you.

School Sports Top and Vest

After the last of the summer sport games are played for Term 4, could you please return your **child's sports top and school vest back to the class teacher**.

All sports tops and vests need to be returned to school as they stay with the classroom.

So please check at home thoroughly this weekend and return as many as possible.

Thank you.

"Christmas Celebration" School Production

We are having a performance on Wednesday 7th and Thursday 8th December, 7pm. You need to purchase tickets for the evening you wish to attend. There are a limited number of tickets for each night's show.

Tickets cost \$2 per person and can be purchased from the school foyer from the 28th November – 8th December at 8:45 – 9 am.

Alternatively you can send an envelope to your child's class teacher stating the exact number of tickets required, and the preferred night, and tickets will be sent home. Many thanks.



Food Bank Donations

We ask that you bring along some items for the Mosgiel Foodbank to our End of Year Mass on Wednesday December 15th please.

There will be cartons in the Church porch to put these into.

This is a practical way in which we can all help others at this time of the year.

Non perishable goods please such as milo, tea, cereals, tinned food ie vegetables/sauces and fruit, pasta, rice as well as any Christmas treats.

Library Books and Reading Books

Amnesty on returning any school books you may find at home (while you spring clean!). Please return to your class teacher.



Term 4 Invoices

If possible please pay by Tuesday 13th December as this is the end of the financial year for our school.

If you have any problems please see Pauline in the office to make arrangements.

If you would like to pay by internet banking our school account is ASB 12 3196 0004102 00.

Thank you.

Lucy the puppy visited Room 1 last week.



Touch last Monday



The Futsal team in action last week...

